

Arrest in teen's 1980 slaying

Suspect in Antioch girl's killing has long crime record

By Rachel Swan and Annie Ma

Antioch police announced Monday that they have arrested a suspect in the 1980 kidnapping and killing of a teenager whose story briefly jolted the nation and roiled a quiet East Bay suburb.

Mitchell Lynn Bacom, 63, of Antioch was arrested just before 5 p.m. Monday for allegedly kidnapping 14-year-old Suzanne Bombardier while she was babysitting her nieces on a summer night 37 years ago and killing her. Police detained Bacom outside of his home on the 300

block of West Madill Street in Antioch. Bacom was an acquaintance of the Bombardier family at the time the crime was committed, police said, without disclosing further details. Investigators reopened the case in 2015 after a friend of Suzanne and the slain teen's

niece met with two retired detectives who were assigned to find the girl's killer in 1980. The police used an FBI indexing system not available at the time of the crime to analyze DNA evidence extracted from the crime scene and trace it to Bacom.

Antioch continues on A7



Courtesy Bombardier family

Suzanne Bombardier disappeared while babysitting.



Photos by Paul Chinn / The Chronicle

Anne Gallagher (left), a volunteer in Supervisor Hillary Ronen's office, visits Alice as commuters board a shuttle.

Why Alice is able to stay on streets

State law gives mentally ill the right to decline help; S.F. officials seek change

So many San Francisco street corners have one: the homeless person who sits there all day long for months or years, becoming part of the landscape.

At 16th and Mission streets, just outside the Burger King, the neighborhood fixture has long been Alice. The woman, who told me she was 62 one day and 65

HEATHER KNIGHT
On San Francisco

another, has slept in the fast food restaurant's entryway for at least three years, her belongings piled high in shopping carts and stuffed into suitcases spread all around her. The city's homeless outreach workers have tried many times to persuade her to move inside, and every time she has declined. She always tells them her brother or aunt or other relative is coming that afternoon to help her, but no family member comes.

On a recent afternoon, when she was asked what year it is, she answered 2006. She pulls out her hair when she's agitated, which is often. She said that when her back pain is really bad, she can't walk and other



Alice has been homeless for years and has regularly spent her days and nights at 16th and Mission streets.

homeless people have to carry her to nearby bushes to relieve herself.

And yet — in the name of compassion — city officials cannot compel her to move inside, where she would be warm, and have a bed and bathroom.

Under California law, mentally ill people have the right to decline all help unless they pose an imminent danger to themselves or others or have become gravely

Knight continues on A8

Increased filings of sex-based lawsuits

More speaking out on workplace harassment

By Wendy Lee

As scandals pile up, harassment lawsuits are on track to reach their highest level in recent years.

More than 3,500 federal civil lawsuits related to harassment in the workplace have been filed so far this year, an increase over 2016, according to Lex Machina, a Menlo Park analytics firm that tracks litigation. Federal data show that the number of sex-based-harassment complaints filed in 2016 increased from the prior year.

This year has pushed the issue into the spotlight, as accusations have brought down prominent politicians and entertainers, including state Assemblyman Matt Dababneh, D-Encino (Los Angeles County); U.S. Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn.; interviewer Charlie Rose; and — perhaps

Harassment continues on A6

Oakland workers agree to end strike

By Kimberly Veklerov

A weeklong strike in Oakland ended Monday night after a mediation session concluded between representatives for the city and its largest union, allowing major services to resume Tuesday morning with city workers back on the job.

Negotiators for the city and the labor group spent eight hours Monday holed up in separate conference rooms in the Marriott Hotel in downtown Oakland, bringing point-by-point contract terms to their go-between, David Weinberg, a former Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service commissioner.

No deal resulted from the first of what could be many mediation sessions, but union leaders said it restored their optimism and faith in the bargaining process.

Oakland continues on A9

Landlords facing backlash for fees passed to tenants

By Dominic Fracassa

Amina Rubio thought little of the notice she received in the mail in October 2016 informing her that the Powell Street apartment building where she's lived for nearly 20 years was under new management.

At the time, the name of her building's new owners, Veritas Investments and its subsidiary, Greentree Property Management — one of the largest landlords in San Francisco — didn't ring any bells, so it was a fact of life easily tucked away in the back of her mind.

But Rubio's indifference toward her new property manager was shattered when, in September, she received another notice, this one informing

Rents continues on A8

INSIDE



Craig Ruttle / Associated Press

New York City attack

A man inspired by Islamic State militants detonates a homemade bomb in a corridor of the nation's busiest subway system. Only the bomber is seriously injured. A12



Weather

Sunny. Highs: 61-74. Lows: 27-47.

B8



Big fire's advance up coast is slowed by calming winds

By Peter Fimrite and Sarah Ravani

The grueling battle to halt the fire threatening Santa Barbara and celebrity-filled communities along the coast of California is being waged over a vast rolling backcountry stretching inland over steep mountains, through wooded gullies and along inaccessible chaparral-covered cliffs.

Nearly 7,000 firefighters, tanker planes and helicopters pounded the Thomas Fire on Monday after stubborn Santa Ana winds died down, slowing the relentless march of flames through Southern California.

The fire, which was 20 percent contained Monday morning, grew to 231,700 acres and

Fire continues on A9